

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 187

BY REPRESENTATIVE MUSCARELLO

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:981(A) and (D) and to enact R.S. 13:961(J), relative to court  
3 reporter pools; to provide concerning stenographer-reporters of the Board of Tax  
4 Appeals; to revise provisions establishing a court reporter pool employed by the  
5 Louisiana Supreme Court; and to revise provisions relative to rules, procedures, and  
6 guidelines with respect to the court reporter pool.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 13:981(A) and (D) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
9 13:961(J) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §961. Court reporters; generally

11 \* \* \*

12 J. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a  
13 stenographer-reporter of the Board of Tax Appeals as authorized pursuant to R.S.  
14 47:1404 and 1416 shall prepare, certify, and charge for a transcript in accordance  
15 with the board's rules. The stenographer-reporter shall be considered to have the  
16 authority of an official reporter for the board in the same manner as if appointed by  
17 the district court for the parish of the board's domicile and shall be considered a  
18 certified digital reporter during his or her continued employment in that capacity.

19 \* \* \*

20 §981. Court reporter pools

21 A. There is hereby established a court reporter pool of thirty emergency  
22 court reporters employed or approved by the supreme court from which said court  
23 reporters may be assigned from time to time to any of the various district courts in  
24 the state as the need arises in order that transcripts for criminal appeals and other  
25 necessary purposes may be timely lodged in the appellate courts.

26 \* \* \*

1           D. ~~In addition to all fees for court reporters provided for in R.S. 13:961, each~~  
2           ~~court reporter in the pool shall be paid an annual salary by the state in the amount of~~  
3           ~~fifteen thousand dollars. The supreme court shall provide for the salaries, related~~  
4           ~~costs, and travel expenses of the court reporters in its annual budget for operations~~  
5           ~~of the court. Reimbursement for travel expenses of pool court reporters shall not~~  
6           ~~exceed the amount allowed other state employees. Notwithstanding any other~~  
7           ~~provision of law to the contrary, an emergency court reporter appointed pursuant to~~  
8           ~~the authority of this Section shall prepare, certify, and charge for a transcript in~~  
9           ~~accordance with rules duly adopted by the Supreme Court for that purpose. An~~  
10           ~~emergency court reporter under this Section shall be considered to have the authority~~  
11           ~~of an official reporter for a district court in the same manner as if appointed by it.~~

\* \* \*

13           Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
14           signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
15           by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
16           vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
17           effective on the day following such approval.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_